SALEM COUNTY BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS MARCH 7, 2012 MEETING MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Director Acton: Pledge of Allegiance followed prayer by Deputy Director Laury.

Director Acton stated that adequate notice pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act has been given of this meeting.

On Roll Call, the following Freeholders were present: Deputy Director Laury, Freeholders Cross, Vanderslice, Ware, Bobbitt, Timberman and Acton.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the February 15, 2012 workshop and regular meetings. Minutes to be received, approved and recorded in the Minute Book, seconded by Freeholder Cross, and carried 7/0.

WAIVER OF THE RULES (Resolution No.)

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Family Promise Executive Director Christine Holme I am the new Network Director of Family Promise I have been in this position since January 2nd this year. Before that I was on the board from I believe 2009 before we opened our doors so Family Promise has been something that has been in my heart for a very long time. I worked with Julie Acton and I have the pleasure so thank you and thank you for having me here. Today I wanted to give you an overview of our program talk a little bit about what we have done historically, talk about the families that we currently have staying with us in Family Promise and to also to suggest ways that people can get involved with Family Promise.

Our program is part of a national program which began in 1986 in Union County New Jersey. We have 171 affiliates. That's what we are we are one of the affiliates, in 41 states. Logistically how we work is we help homeless families and we do that by providing shelter, overnight accommodations and one meal a day and we do that through a network of churches. We have 12 host churches which are in rotation and the families stay in the church from 6pm to 6am. They stay for one week at a time at each church. During the day they are with me in our family center which is in the former rectory of Queen of Apostles in Pennsville and when I'm with the families I work with the families to develop an individual plan and I help them to learn things that they may not have understood before that caused their homelessness. I help them save money I help them establish all the social services that are available to them I help them, with negotiating issues with the school with their children so there is a lot of things that I work with the families. I help them open savings accounts for them. We work have over 500 volunteers I am the only paid employee so how we are able to do this is we have many people doing many little things and together we do something very, very vast. We only help 14 people at a time but the reason even though that's a small number a large number we really have a large impact on those families it's up to four families at a time and we have over an 80 percent success rate with the families that we have helped. We're beyond just being a shelter and providing a meal we have many, many rules and it's hard for the families being in community living and shared space that it's hard but because of all other added things that we do to work with them and support them and advocate for them they're able to really change the position that they were in from before they were in our network. Where we find our families is they referred to us from the school district they are referred to us from social services they are referred to us from other agencies like catholic social services the churches will also recommend people to us. Everyone that comes into our program has been screened there is no one with drug or alcohol problems there's no one with a criminal background we do a background check on everyone. The difference with our families is that we want people who are motivated people who want to change their circumstance so we work really hard with the families to help them help themselves. We are also privately funded we do not receive any money from the government we receive in total of government funding we receive about \$4,000 from social services and this past year we received just over \$2,000 from FEMA. Everything else that we have is from individual donations

and fund raising. In the past historically the number of people that we've helped we helped 22 families since we opened our doors in August of 2009 we've helped 49 children and we've helped 29 adults. Currently I want to give a little description of the families that we have in our network right now. I have one family that was domestic violence case and was living in an unsafe environment in a different county she was instructed to leave by DYFS she moved from the other county to Salem County and was staying with family and friends in more than one town. With multiple school districts involved we've had difficulty getting a school district to take ownership of the family and while there are federal laws to protect the families this is an arduous process the schools are ran by state laws so it's hard when they are always following state law to pull into a federal law into the mix and it not something that they deal with every day and if they are not always made aware of the issues because a lot of times people don't report themselves as homeless as homeless. When someone's sleeping on someone's sofa that's homeless if you don't have permanent housing you are homeless but you're not necessarily going to report that to your school. The mom in this family right now has me as an advocate and I just can't imagine what it's like for the families who are on their won who don't know the laws that are there to protect them. Where we are supposed to have bussing that's set up within a little over a week we are going on our forth week without bussing these issues that we deal with, with Family Promise but the family is being successful the children have not missed any school we used our volunteers in our network to drive the kids to school. The moms getting medical care that she needed because of domestic violence. The moms starting school for her GED on Monday at the One Stop Center and she has the support now to look for the housing and training for work that she didn't have before and she is also saving money. Our second family we have a single parent pregnant woman before she came into our network she was living in a motel spending all of her money from unemployment on a hotel. Since she's coming with us she now has medical insurance to pay for her pregnancy and to take care of the baby. She's beginning classes on CNA at the Vo-Tech and that's through unemployment will pay that through One Stop and she's saving money and she's waiting on housing that we're pretty sure she going to get. The last family that we have is a mom and a dad and they're looking for work. The healthcare that they've neglected they have a lot of issues that they haven't been able to deal with but the child has not had any school work that's been disrupted in this process. The dad is set to take his GED test and they've been saving money. What I wanted to convey to everyone is that there is a way that you can help Family Promise you can volunteer you can call and schedule a training Mr. Vanderslice I know your church is one of our host churches if you you'd like to volunteer I could help you out with that. You can help with the fund raiser you can volunteer or you could sponsor fundraisers which Mr. Vanderslice has done and you can donate in kind by giving everyone a wish list different items that we need in the family center you can donate money we have people who donate on a schedule whether it's monthly, quarterly or yearly or one time and I want to thank you. We're looking for additional host church I would love to come and speak at any church or organization.

Director Acton stated I thank you Christine is there anyone here from your board.

Christine stated Tom Webster, Dawn Parker

Director Acton stated well thank you for bringing this to our attention the awareness is great and the collaboration among the churches is priceless so I think it's a great organization and I hope a lot of people get involved with it especially through these touch economic times so thank you Christine.

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

American Red Cross Month, Joyce Skradzinski along with disaster volunteers Vince, Charlie Bomb and Vice Chair Jeff Hogan were presented with a proclamation by Deputy Director Laury.

CORRESPONDENCE

GENERAL

Charles Munyon, Board Secretary, Salem County Department of Planning & Agriculture, revised plans for the Five Star Plaza are acceptable – site plan approved

Rachel D. Campbell, Director, Office of Proceedings, Department of Transportation, JP Rail, Inc. d/b/a Southern Railroad Company of New Jersey filed a verified notice of exemption to operate Salem Branch Line

Allison Black, PH.D., L.S.W., Commissioner, letter regarding Department's decision to refocus funding allocated to the Differential Response Pilot Program to other services in Salem County

Linda Levie, Wonder Walls, LLC, Elsinboro, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

Richard Slavin, Salem, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

Sheldon Strober, Ed. D. (Art), Elsinboro, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

J. Craig Maue, Salem, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism, concerned about the aesthetics of the development of the old 5 Star Auction Center

Bill and Mary Breneman, Salem, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

Paulinne Jonas, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

Amanda Coombs-Shimp, Coombs Barnyard, letter of support for office of Cultural Affairs and Tourism

Philip J. Passanante, Atlantic City Electric petition of Atlantic City Electric Company for approval of amendments to its tariff to provide for an increase in rates and charges for electric service

Cumberland County, resolution opposing Assembly Bill A-2202 and Senate Bill S-1459, County Procurement for School Districts

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Office of Emergency Management - February 8, 2012

COMMITTEE/COMMISSION MINUTES

Inter Agency Council of Human Services, March 6, 2012

PAYMENT OF BILLS & CLAIMS

TREASURERS REPORT

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury to accept and file the correspondence, and the committee and commission reports and that they be made a part of the Minutes. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice. Motion was carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury that all Bills and Claims, when properly signed and audited, be paid and charged to their respective accounts. The motion was seconded by Freeholder Vanderslice. The motion was carried by a hand vote of 7/0.

Motion was made by Deputy Director Laury that the Treasurer's Report be received and filed, subject to audit, and that a copy be made available to the public, upon request, for its review. Freeholder Vanderslice seconded his motion. The motion carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Resolutions to be read in bulk.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE – Acton, Vanderslice, Ware

R. 2012-164

ADMINISTRATIVE

FINANCE RESOLUTION CANCELLATION OF CHECKS

R. 2012-165 ADMINISTRATIVE

FINANCE RESOLUTION CANCELLATION OF CHECKS

R. 2012-166

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION APPOINTING A MEMBER TO THE SALEM COUNTY TOURISM ADVISORY COUNCIL

R. 2012-167

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PURCHASES FROM STATE CONTRACT VENDORS

R. 2012-168

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION LOWERING THE SALARIES OF THE FREEHOLDERS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM FOR FISCAL 2012

R. 2012-169

ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CUMBERLAND/SALEM WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD (WIB)

Deputy Director Laury moved for the adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion.

Freeholder Timberman stated I have two resolutions for the members to the Tourism Advisory Board I don't know which one.

Director Acton stated it's Heather Yelle because Rae Svecz had a conflict in her night.

Director Acton stated resolution number 5 lowering the salary of the Freeholders I just feel again in this tough economic time when we are all suffering everything's been cut or will be cut this is the least we can do we didn't take a 3.6 percent raise this past November and we will be reducing our salaries 2 percent so we are sharing in the pain also.

As there was no further discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

PUBLIC SERVICES COMMITTEE - Vanderslice, Acton, Bobbitt

HEALTH COMMITTEE - Bobbitt, Cross, Acton

R. 2012-170

HEALTH

RESOLUTION TO REVISE THE SCHEDULE OF ENVIRONMENTAL FEES TO BE CHARGED BY THE SALEM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

R. 2012-171

HEALTH

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FREEHOLDER DIRECTOR AND CLERK OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM TO SIGN THE 2009 SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT FOR LOCAL MUNICIPALITIES

Freeholder Bobbitt moved for the adoption of these two resolutions, with Freeholder Timberman seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE – Timberman, Bobbitt, Laury

R. 2012-172

SOCIAL SERVICES

RESOLUTION ACCEPTING MODIFIED FUNDING SOURCE FOR TITLE V SECOND YEAR GRANT EXTENSION FROM THE NEW JERSEY JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION

R. 2012-173

SOCIAL SERVICES

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION
OF THE GRANT ADMINISTRATION OF THE ALLIANCE TO PREVENT ALCOHOLISM
AND DRUG ABUSE FOR THE YEAR 2012
(\$13,745.63 - CARNEYS POINT; \$3,819.14 - ELSINBORO TOWNSHIP;
\$8,657.93 PENNSVILLE TOWNSHIP)

Freeholder Timberman moved for the adoption of these two resolutions, with Freeholder Bobbitt seconding her motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE – Cross, Vanderslice, Timberman

R. 2012-174

PUBLIC SAFETY

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS ACCEPTING GRANT FUNDING FOR THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE FROM THE NEW JERSEY DIVISION OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE STATE OFFICE OF VICTIM-WITNESS ADVOCACY

Freeholder Cross moved for the adoption of this resolution, with Freeholder Vanderslice seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULTURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE – Ware, Timberman, Laury

R. 2012-175

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS OF THE COUNTY OF SALEM, NEW JERSEY, AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF A DEVELOPMENT EASEMENT FOR THE PRESERVATION OF FARMLAND IN THE TOWNSHIPS OF ALLOWAY, PILESGROVE AND UPPER PITTSGROVE BY INSTALLMENT PURCHASE; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF OBLIGATIONS OF THE COUNTY TO FINANCE SUCH ACQUISITION; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TREASURER AND THE CLERK OF THE BOARD TO EXECUTE THE INSTALLMENT PURCHASE AGREEMENT; AND PROVIDING FOR OTHER MATTERS RELATING THERETO

R. 2012-176

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS
RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT TO CROSS COUNTY CONNECTION,
TMA FOR RIDERSHIP AND ORIGIN/DESTINATION SURVEY

R. 2012-177

3/22/2012 8:28 AM

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #1 EMERGENCY RAILROAD REPAIRS IN RELATION TO HURRICANE IRENE

R. 2012-178

TRANSPORTATION, AGRICULURE & CULTURAL AFFAIRS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALEM COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC INFORMATION & TOURISM & CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION TO APPLY FOR FUNDS FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Freeholder Ware moved for the adoption of these four resolutions, with Freeholder Timberman seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolutions carried a hand vote of 7/0.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE - Laury, Ware, Cross

R. 2012-162 PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT FOR PROVIDING DEER CARCASS
REMOVAL SERVICES FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM
(\$15,000 – DEAR CARCASS REMOVAL, LLC)
(TABLED AT THE FEBRUARY 15, 2012 MEETING)

R. 2012-179 PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZATION FOR THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS TO ACCEPT AND ADMINISTER FUNDS FROM A SUBGRANT AWARD OF THE FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2012 OF DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT PROGRAM FUNDING AND FOR THE COUNTY CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO AMEND THE BUDGET AND CERTIFY THE AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS

R. 2012-180 PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #6
REPLACEMENT OF WEBSTERS MILL BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1700-455
AND THE REHABILITATION OF SPILLWAY STRUCTURE #30-10 ON EAST LAKE ROAD, INC
PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM
(SAMBOL CONSTRUCTION)

R. 2012-181 PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #1 EMERGENCY SCOUR REPAIRS AT HUNGRY HILL BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1704-154 ON ALLOWAY-WOODSTOWN ROAD, COUNTY ROAD #602 AND OLIPHANTS BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1700-437 ON KINGS HIGHWAY, COUNTY ROAD #620 IN PILESGROVE TOWNSHIP FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM (\$16,499.35 – RICHARD E. PIERSON CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.)

R. 2012-182 PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF HANNAH BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1701-223 FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM (\$50,000 - FEDERICI AND AKIN, P.A.)

R. 2012-183

3/22/2012 8:28 AM

PUBLIC WORKS

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXECUTION OF CHANGE ORDER #1 REPLACEMENT OF HANNAH BRIDGE, COUNTY BRIDGE #1701-233 ON OLIVET ROAD, COUNTY ROAD #609 OVER INDIAN RUN IN PITTSGROVE TOWNSHIP FOR THE COUNTY OF SALEM (\$27,525.88 – FRED M. SCHIAVONE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.)

R. 2012-184 PUBLIC WORKS

AUTHORIZING MEMBERSHIP IN A MUTUAL AID AND ASSISTANCE AGREEMENT WITH PARTICIPATING UNITS

Deputy Director Laury moved to take Resolution 2012-162 off the table, with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion and carried by hand vote of 7/0.

Deputy Director Laury stated this is going to seem awkward but I am going to make a motion that we approve it and then I think we all want to disapprove it I'll go through discussion after we make that motion. I make a motion that we do not pass that resolution with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion and carried by hand vote of 7/0.

Deputy Director Laury stated the motion was to not pass this resolution it's a joint effort between our sheriff's depart Chuck Miller our Public Works and the Landfill Salem County Improvement Authority where we will now be collecting the County will be collecting the deer carcass's instead of shopping them out for \$15,000 from a private vendor so I am going to make a motion that we pass the motion not to pass the resolution.

Clerk of the Board Gage stated why don't you make a motion to withdraw the resolution.

Deputy Director Laury stated I make a motion to withdraw with Freeholder Cross seconding the motion.

Freeholder Timberman stated we have already made the arrangements to do this.

Deputy Director Laury stated yes.

Freeholder Timberman stated so if somebody has a deer carcass right now who they you call

Deputy Director Laury stated call the same place call the call board and this is a great opportunity also for our municipalities to join in on this and they can also save money on their removal also.

Director Acton stated so if you see a deer on the side of a county road you would call the call center and then the sheriff's department will have somebody pick it up and put it to our landfill at a \$58 per ton cost

Deputy Director Laury stated it's not necessarily the sheriff's department but it will be our inmates that will be out there with our public works employees and an officer collecting them.

Freeholder Cross stated if I could just expand that a little bit further if in fact you call center on the weekend just understand that we don't see the significance in sending them out on the weekend at time and a half double time rate so it will be the next day that we do business in the County that it will be removed so just wanted to clarify.

As there was no further discussion, the motion withdraw Resolution R. 2012-162 carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Deputy Director Laury moved for the adoption of resolutions R. 2012-179 thru R. 2012-184, with Freeholder Ware seconding his motion. As there was no discussion, the motion for adoption of the foregoing resolution carried a hand vote of 7/0.

Director Acton stated thank you all for coming out here it shows your interest it shows you passion whether we agree or disagree you're here, you're involved in county government it sends chills up my spine just to see you all out here. I hope that this is not the last time that you come I've been here times where there's only one or two people so this is great I know hopefully we will have public comment because we need to hear what you are thinking and hopefully that's why you're here you're going to express your opinions I would ask if everyone is respectful to each other thank you for taking time out of your schedule you could be doing many, many different things so really thank you.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Deputy Director Laury stated I would I just like to remind those that are on the Waterways Advisory Board Beth and I both would like to remind all that tomorrow 6:30 at the Ware Building we are looking forward to working with people who love this county and its natural resources if you would like to partake in that committee certainly reach out to me and we will add you to the list it's going to be a great committee 6:30 tomorrow night at the Ware Building.

NEW BUSINESS

Director Acton stated I propose forming a citizen budget advisory committee and what this committee would do would we would get input from the public and just get their thoughts on maybe the direction were going into just to layout what we have where we've been where we're going I would like three members of the citizens three business leaders three municipal elected officials two clergy three freeholders and our county administrator and our CFO as you can see it's an array of people not for them to make our decisions but just to get input so we can listen to what you have to say so stay tuned and I think you'll be hearing a little bit more about that.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Freeholder Cross one of our employees in the health department started this process probably 6 to 8 months ago Annmarie Ruiz I know she's not here this evening but recently passed her license certified license official as a health official so we now have somebody else within the County Health that is passed the test will begin gaining experience in the event that we can promote within and a lot of hard work went into it lot of studying a previous close of passing result but she stuck with it and raising a child and having a family and all the other responsibilities to go along with it we give Annmarie a lot of credit send her congratulations.

Director Acton stated is there anyone here from the Commission on Women because I know they have a Women's of Achievement Luncheon that's going to happen I didn't know if they could give us some details.

Ms. Bomba stated it's on March 31st at the Washington Club \$25 for tickets Carol is also on the Commission.

Director Acton stated for those who didn't hear you March 31st and tickets could be purchased by anyone on the Commission and Ms. Waddington's here and Ms. Bomba's here and I think the tickets are \$25.

Director Acton stated elected officials I know we have President Ms. Tuthill from Salem City and former Freeholder Jeffrey J. Hogan thank you for coming and former Township Committeeman Pete Voros thank you for coming.

Freeholder Dale Cross from the breakfast that we had this morning with PSEG who is giving us their annual update on where they are going and where they are right now where they're going they made an announcement today as far as a job fair it's not a formal job fair per say what it is they're running

numerous advertisements in various papers throughout the county what they are encouraging people to do with all the recent layoffs and the selling and closing and the refineries they know that there are a lot of skilled labor and a lot of skilled folks out there that are going to be looking for jobs they encourage you to register through PSEG.com make yourself available they're having additional testing dates for the Motspot Test which basically judges aptitude in various areas that PSEG would be looking for so we encourage folks and spread the word amongst your friends please.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ambrose Salinas, Mannington – hypothetical you mentioned the county would be removing animal carcasses as a service for the county what if it's 2:00 in the morning on a Saturday night the carcass is in the middle of the road what would be the process for that

Freeholder Cross – I can't give you 100 percent but this is something that the Sheriff is taking over but our arrangement/agreement is going to be we would not come out immediately on the weekend because of time and half, double time associated with that they would make a memo at the call board and pass that message on to the road department on Monday morning that will be a situation where we will have to present to the Sheriff. Be specific in your message to call board and let them know that it maybe obstructing traffic and maybe we may have to make a special arrangement.

Gerald Bebber – 911 Call Center, if you call on the weekend jurisdictional police departments usually 90 percent of the time do not have a problem going out pulling the deer off to the side of the road and then the Sheriff department of or the county road department would probably come back possibly on the following Monday

Martha Rogers, Pennsville – wanted to give some insight into the tourism question worked in tourism for 20 years before retiring for DuPont Hotel. Ms. Rogers explained her job duties and the packages that were offered to the traveling businessman and how lucrative the tourism industry is. discussed how have a lot of respect for Dr. Turk he has brought a lot of culture into our community that I never saw in all the years that I have lived here and I see when he does his concerts I see that the churches are full with people so it's wanted here. I know you have your dealing with a lot of things here and I know your all intelligent people we all voted for you because we know your intelligent and I know you'll do the right thing and you'll try to do what you can to work things out.

Cynthia Lambert, Executive Director of the South Jersey Cultural Alliance - nonprofit service organization that provides technical assistance and resources to 120 non profit cultural organizations in southern New Jersey. One of my favorite dearest Cultural Organizations in Southern New Jersey is the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission and the wonderful work they do and I am here respectfully talking about this in total appreciation of the extreme economic pressures we are all feeling in the state today and I congratulate this board for your sacrifice for the good of all people. We believe that the arts have a restorative value to communities. Brought a national endowment for the Arts recent study on the economic impact on the arts to share with the committee. Discussed the tentative projects that were planned this year through the New Jersey State Council on the Arts and the Cultural and Heritage Commission. Here to plead on behalf of the Salem County Cultural and Heritage Commission that we try to find a solution that perhaps we could accommodate their good work as best as possible and not have it just disappear because it really does change lives and I thank very much for your attention and for the careful work you all do and congratulations to all of you for hearing us.

Rebecca Gower-Call, Salem, Chairperson of the Salem County Tourism Council – As I came here this evening I kept thinking about how the way that we see things really shapes what we're able to do in our community and how important Salem County is to our region and to the business owners and leaders who are here I know that these are touch economic times and I'm really proud that I work with such innovative leaders within the Tourism Advisory Council. I've had the opportunity to work with Dr. Jim Turk and Irene in that office as well as to work now with the new collaboration with the Salem County Chamber of Commerce and their tourism advisory council. We have this new ability to work with the chamber of commerce in order to do a lot more with a lot less. In the last four years that I've

had the opportunity to be a part of this group we've come a long way. We came from the bottom of the barrel and we're on the up sweep right now. People are now using the resources that you as the Freeholder Board and the citizens of this county have invested in and we are using those resources to bring people together. The Chamber of Commerce and this new group we put together which I will invite you to which is on Monday the 19th at Auburn Road Vineyard at 6:00. Without that office for Cultural and Heritage it would set us back 10 years in what we've been able to do and I think it would have a devastating impact on the business owners, the artist and the people who are trying to advance in Salem County. I just wanted to share what we are trying to do and I respect that you have a very difficult job in front of you so I thank you for taking a few minutes out of your evening to listen to my two cents. Thank you.

Buster Burden - here on Jim Turks behalf before Jim Turk and his staff took the initiative to take the bull by the horn with the tourism there was no tourism. The artist didn't know where to go we have a lot hidden gems around here nobody knew where the Hancock House was and the list goes on. Without tourism you have no economic development, without tourism the businesses die because nobody's going to be here to buy anything. It just saddens me that we're here and I know that you are going to do the right thing but I know a lot of areas that we can save money on and tourism's not one of them. We've brought millions of dollars into this county and you're just going to turn around and throw it into the trash. There was a lot of blood sweat and tears. You want to talk about saving money don't get rid of Jim Turk him and Irene are outstanding. Jim Turk is irreplaceable he cannot be replaced he is a gem in this county and so what if he don't live in this county let's get down to the meat of the bones let's talk about what Jim's accomplishments are and I think his accomplishments outweigh the fact that he does not live in this county. Let's just get down to business. I know when the administrator with the clerk of the board/administrator you want to start saving money lets consolidate that have the clerk of the board administrator do that job we can stop paying \$80,000 for that position we can stop paying \$50,000 for Mr. Reeds position we can stop paying \$19,000 for Mr. Foleys position I can go on a list and list of things. But I'm here for my friend Mr. Turk he's done an outstanding job and like I said without the tourism we don't have no chamber of commerce. Thank you for your time and have a great day.

Rica Haus - new resident of Salem County as of today. Teach at Salem Community College head of the glass applied craft and design program at the glass education center. Made a choice to move here from Philadelphia where the arts community is huge vibrant and a really great place for me to be. I'm moving my business down here my life down here and I'm purchasing property I've made these decisions based on what I've seen about Salem County. For artist this is a wonderful opportunity to move to a place that is close to a major metropolitan center like New York or Philadelphia or Washington or Baltimore but to live somewhere inexpensive to be able to purchase property. I am saddened that I haven't been able to attend the meetings with Jim Turk over the last year or so because of my teaching schedule but I am on that mailing list and I am going to attend events and I'm participating meeting people. Part of me is a little concerned when I hear that really important positions in government that have such a strong impact on my decision to move here and to build my life here and to bring my tax dollars here might be reversed. I think the role of commission brings people to a central place and allows us to disseminate information then allow us to move out into the arts world and the tourism world here and in order to do what we need to do to have careers and bring people in here. I know that you are in a horrid place Salem Community College is in the same position I'm in the same place as a business owner and they are difficult decisions. What I seen dollars spent on the arts and cultural and tourism always come back multifold. I hope that you are able to find a way to continue the work that's been done and to reach that tipping point that will bring Salem County into the minds and hearts of a lot more people than it already holds dear. I want to thank you for your work I know this is hard and that there are so many things to consider and so many lives impacted by the decisions that you make. Thank you for giving me the opportunity to come up here and share some of my experience and knowledge with you today.

Diana Locuson, Alloway – I am a leather artist and I am here to support the Cultural and Heritage Commission especially James Turk who I think has done a fantastic job in the last few years. Learned the art of leather working in Salem County. Jim Turk has done so much to promote the arts. It's almost

unbelievable to live in a county and not know there's 50 or 60 artist that live not very far from you and Jim Turk has brought this out. the very first Arts in Bloom Festival that we had in my leather shop in Alloway I maybe had between 30 – 35 people show up and then last year, guess how many I had, I had 300 people come to Alloway last year. I can guarantee you one thing this has brought money to this county in food restaurants gas stations and lodging other shops and I had people from as far away as New York, Maryland, Virginia, Pennsylvania, North Jersey and South Jersey so tell me it isn't working. It is working and I would appreciate any support you can give for this project.

Jennifer Coombs- my sister and I started a business in 2007 called Coombs Barnyard and we promote agri-tourism in our barnyard activities. Each year we continue to see growth and we've had people come from all over as far as California to come to our events whether they were just visiting or not they made us feel good. They came and because of your website they were able to get a hold of us we are linked up through so many various website because of your tourism office. We utilized Salem County Tourism website for advertising purposes and we feel that it has brought us many new customers. We have appreciated Mr. Turks prompt response whenever we have needed to add an event to their website calendar or to discuss an idea with him. As we continue to expand we have utilized the services of the tourism office more and more and we would love the opportunity for that service to be available to us in the future. I think it is beneficial to have an office specifically for the purpose of quiding quest through their journey of amazing Salem County. We truly believe that Salem County has huge tourism potential and the program should be continued to be funded. I really feel that you are doing a disservice to our community to do away with this. It just seems that I since not I wouldn't say elections but it just seems like the past few meetings I've been to not the new regime the old freeholders that have been here have certainly done well a wonderful job but it just seems like that there's been a whole lot of cuts since I've been coming to the freeholders meetings since November since the newly elected freeholder not against you Mr. Vanderslice I've been here a few times and it just seems your cutting programs that are beneficial to this community and you really need to look and research before you start doing this kind of stuff.

Alex – Pilesgrove – I've been a professional painter for about 20 years we came over here and found a good chance to expand my business have a gallery and all that but really what I was amazed at was the number of artist in Salem County that had their individual homes studios spread out all over and as Diana said we are terrible at marketing I'll admit that. What Jim Turk did was brought us all together organized it and so now we are a force. You've got to keep this rolling. We've got a momentum going the arts are being put on the map for New Jersey I really think we are heading in the direction of being one of the major art centers on the east coast. I really think we ought to keep it going it would be a real crime to knock it back down again it's just too much at stake. It's a feeling of pride accomplishment and knowing now we have something big in the arts our artist are being appreciated and they are starting to spread out and like Diana said I've people from New York down to Virginia come down to my studio and I was amazed they are very impressed with what's in the county and they were surprised so let's keep it going.

Lisa Hogate, Pennsville – I am an artist and very interested in the history in our community. I have been working I had to go outside the community to get the information. When I first met Mr. Turk he was one of few who knew anything about the history of this area. From firsthand experience we have a jewel in Salem County. Salem County historical society has a fantastic collection marvelous collection we go back to the 1600's. I understand and I haven't seen your figures but if there's another way that you can cut something else keep Jim Turk he has done things for this community that I don't think anybody else has done. Feel if we could all support him and all of us are willing we have a treasure we. Jim Turk has put us on the map, keep us there.

Director Acton stated before Jennifer Jones leaves she is our Executive Director of the Chamber of Commerce. I didn't mean to embarrass you but thank you for all the work you do for Salem County.

Steve Jones, representative of Mater Dei Nursing Home Rehab. Ms. Lambert did a great job explaining just what we got from Cultural and Heritage we are really grateful. We are a business even though we

are owned by the catholic church and that's in even more dire straits than Salem County is we still have been put out to find a way to connect to the community and our way was through cultural and heritage. Jim Turk contacted us with idea that he wanted to expand out to area business that might not have the to connect with the Arts community. Jim is a hard task master he doesn't take no for an answer and he expects people to give as much as they get. On May 31st hopefully I can invite all the Freeholders we will have another mosaic. We will draw people from all over Salem County, we put the word out we are now a spot where people can gather we are a spot where people can go. Not just to view are but to do programs in our building it's a whole different thing that we are deciding to offer now. It's great for our business, it's great for other businesses and now we are a part of a bigger community. Support Jim Turk support Irene support Cultural and Heritage and thank you so much.

Cheryl Reardon, South Jersey Bayshore Coalition which is 25 nonprofit organizations working under the umbrella of the coalition to bring tourism to tell the stories of the Bayshore Region of Salem Cumberland and Cape May Counties. Ms. Reardon gave an overview of the tourism statistics for New Jersey. For every in dollar tourism marketing it generated 119 in incremental spending I would say that's a good investment. Prior to launching tourism marketing campaign Salem County ranked last in tourism in New Jersey. Previous to Jim Turk taking on directorship of the cultural and heritage commission it was in disarray and basically non functional. This year we were number 2 in gross State wide, I mean last year in 2011. In 2011 the New Jersey State Council of the Arts awarded Salem County with a citation of excellence its highest rating. Last year's Salem County's Arts in Bloom generated an excess of \$20,000 in just two days. Of course the Salem County website was of course fundamental to that. Salem County has more to offer than any other in the State. We have it all. All we have to do is market it. Ms. Readon discussed the Bayshore Heritage Byway 3. When you have something bringing in 119 for every one dollar you invest it's not something you even consider cutting. Jim Turk represents Salem County and the arts and history so well he's been an intraoral part of planning the byway in Salem County and I guess you've seen the Discover the Possibilities these are great pieces that he's put together he's such a knowledgeable persona wonderful person to work with he's enthusiastic he loves this county he knows his business he's an employee we are lucky to have and Irene also.

Director Acton – and I did forget Cheryl was a former Pilesgrove Township Committeewoman. I have been to quite of few events of the Cultural Heritage the Woodstown rotary's the Oakwood Summer Theater who the director Tom Mason here tonight this evening so I have had the pleasure of enjoying what Cultural and Heritage brings so I am a true advocate and I am sorry. Thank you for being here.

Dee Billia, Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Appel Farm Arts and Music Center – I am here with Heather Yelle who works with me in the marketing department and we're here in support of the Cultural and Heritage Commission and the work that is done here in Salem County to support our efforts'. We are getting ready for our major Arts and music festival on June 2nd. If we don't have this focal point and the website and this very knowledgeable man who is working in support of the arts we lose a very valued community here in Salem County. I would just want to lend my support for the Freeholders to strongly considering fully funding the cultural and heritage commission because it is vitally important for the work that we do. I would like to everyone to imagine what it would be like if we don't have the cultural and heritage commission what would happen.

Heather Yelle, Appel Farm – There are a lot of hidden gems that are inside of this community. A lot of other arts organizations don't have funds within themselves and rely upon Jim to assist them and give them ideas about how to market and moneys where to go to get money to help them provide their programs. I speak on behalf of the organizations as well without him being there and without Irene being there we would sort of be lost. I hope that you folks would consider keeping funding for the tourism committee as well as all the efforts that they do as well as with Jim and Irene so that they can continue with all the programs that they do.

Director Acton – tonight we just appointed Heather to our Tourism Advisory Council so we look forward to working with you.

Steve Landis, Pennsville Township – spent the last three years on the Pennsville Township Committee and trying to balance a budget facing ever decreasing revenues and increasing cost. I know what difficulty you guys are going through. But when you face situations like that you have a choice of continue to increase the county debt by speeding more continuing to raid the surplus to dangerously low levels. Cuts have to be made person stood up a little bit ago and asked why are we talking about so many cuts and it's because of things I said your cost have gone up your revenues have gone down you can't continue to plunge the county deeper and deeper into debt every year. It certainly sounds like the arts and tourism in this county are improving and getting better and people are seeing increases in their own business profits. If these all things are true and are the case maybe you should consider working with this community to attempt to help direct them to be more self sufficient that maybe some of the funding for the program can come from the organizations that benefit from the program. It's nice to have the arts and concerts and things like that but when you see your neighbors losing their house or they lost jobs house they can't afford to pay the taxes for their houses that's a serious issue. The Freeholder Board responsibility mainly is for public safety, public health and for the infrastructure.

Daniel Dunkinbine, Artist, Alloway Township, - It's wonderful to have found a home here. In terms of vision and dollar and sense and choices, an artist faces this all the time and often they clash with each other and the choices we eventually make do impact a neighborhood. I felt like everyone looked down on Salem and Salem is like a jewel and it's wonderful to stand up and say here we are and the vision to do that and be to able to deal with dollars and cents I very much feel we have in Jim Turk.

Dave Towns, Pittsgrove Township, commend you for taking a cut I'm a small business man and I've taken a number of cuts. It sounds like these people do a great job they got this Jim Turk who I don't know and I've seen some of the stuff met some of the places and I appreciate what they've done. If it's got a good payoff have you people thought about helping fund this Jim to help you if you're doing well. Sometimes you need to walk in another man's shoes to know what it's like.

Our next meeting is going to be held on March 21st again it's a Wednesday but we believe that it's good to go around the county we're talking about tourism we're going on tour and we will be in Pennsville Township and that will start at 7:30. In august we will be in July in Pittsgrove and then in Woodstown in October. If you didn't get a chance or you didn't feel comfortable coming up here our email are on the website under the County of Salem and I really do try to get back to everyone I try to call personally but if I didn't in the last day or so I'm so sorry we really have been doing a lot of budget work. I apologize but I will get back to you. Again thank you very much for coming because we are not mind readers and it's good to see your passion.

R. 2012-185 ADMINISTRATIVE

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC FROM A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF CHOSEN FREEHOLDERS OF THE COUNTY OF SALEM

Deputy Director Laury made a motion to adopt the foregoing resolution with Freeholder Cross seconding his motion. As there was no discussion motion carried by hand vote 7/0.

Freeholders went into closed session at 9:08PM to discuss the following:

Ronald Brown v. Salem County New Jersey DEP v. Salem County, Cumberland County and the Nature Conservancy Claim for damages against the County of Salem Julie Grace Keen v. the County of Salem The Estate of Heidi Anderson v. the County of Salem Specific union personnel issues Erik of the family Shute v County of Salem

Respectfully submitted,

Earl R. Gage Clerk of the Board